

A Peek at USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Happenings in February

Important Dates to Remember

March 17 - NAP sales closing date for all crops except value loss and honey

March 17 - Crop Insurance sales closing date for 2007 spring-seeded crops

March 31 - Final loan/LDP availability date for various crops harvested in 2007

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Provisions Continued

The 2002 Farm Bill implemented the AGI at \$2.5 million. Those provisions for AGI have been extended through March 15, 2008.

Until March 15, 2008, FSA county offices will:

- Accept AGI certifications as necessary for crop years 2003 through 2007;
- Obtain AGI certifications for 2008 for emergency, disaster, and conservation program purposes.

Each program has an established payment limitation that applies to all farming operations. Details for each program's payment limitation may be obtained at your local county FSA office.

Further information will be provided as it is received.

FSA is hiring a summer intern position - this position is for students currently enrolled in a college or university. It allows students the opportunity to learn more about the Farm Service Agency as a full-time career.

Applications must be received by March 14. logon to the Montana FSA website at: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt or by contacting Linda Itoh at 406/587-6876.

1099-G Mailed from Kansas City

During the last week of January, producers who have received payments from FSA should have also received a CCC-1099-G from the Kansas City office. A CCC-1099-G is a report to the Internal Revenue Service about FSA payments made to you in calendar year 2007. The CCC-1099-G is a service to help participating producers report taxable income. It is not intended to replace the program participant's responsibility to report income to the IRS.

If you received a CCC-1099-G, we recommend that you check the amounts shown with those in your records to see that the amounts are correct. Refunds will no longer be reported on the 1099-G, but will be available online from the FSA Financial Inquiries (FSA-FI) web-based database. Program participants with Level 2 access may retrieve their refund information at FSA-FI and select "Inquiry Type 1099/Refund Reports". Refund amounts are displayed on the Producer's Year-to-Date Activity web page.

If you have a question concerning the 1099-G refund information, you may contact your local county FSA office for assistance locating the correct payment data. If you choose to visit the office, bring your CCC-1099-G with you.

Step-by-step instructions for obtaining a Level 2 access to retrieve your CCC-1099-G electronically are available on the Montana Internet site at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt under the "I Want To" section and by clicking on the "Do Electronic Business with FSA on My Home Computer."

Disaster Signup still continues. Contact your local FSA office or logon to the Montana FSA website at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt for eligibility requirements.